

To: CN=Paul Jones/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]
Cc: Josh Collins [josh@sfei.org]; ara Clark [cclark@mlml.calstate.edu]; lifford Harvey [CHarvey@waterboards.ca.gov]; hris Solek [chriss@sccwrp.org]; arol Witham [cwitham@ncal.net]; ric Stein [erics@sccwrp.org]; evin O'Connor [koconnor@mlml.calstate.edu]; oss Clark [rclark@mlml.calstate.edu]; had Roberts [rcr@robertsecp.com]; N=Melissa Scianni/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]
From: CN=Erin Foresman/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Wed 9/22/2010 5:56:12 PM
Subject: Re: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR
<http://www.sccwrp.org/AboutSCCWRP/SCCWRPStaff/SteinEric.aspx>
<mailto:Jones.Paul@epamail.epa.gov>
<mailto:erics@sccwrp.org>
josh@sfei.org
erics@sccwrp.org
www.sccwrp.org
<http://www.sccwrp.org/AboutSCCWRP/SCCWRPStaff/SteinEric.aspx>
<mailto:rcr@robertsecp.com>
josh@sfei.org

Hi All,

I'm new to this discussion and just wanted to make a comment about Delta RMP. There have been only two meetings about Delta RMP this year. It is in its beginning stages with a lot of room and need for direction, water community support, and identification of goals and means to reach them. In case folks are curious about Delta RMP, there are introductory documents at this site:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/delta_water_quality/comprehensive_monitoring_program/index.shtml

Erin Foresman
US EPA Region 9
1325 J Street, 14th floor
C/O Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922
Phone: (916) 557 5253
Fax: (916) 557 6877

-----Paul Jones/R9/USEPA/US wrote: -----

To: Josh Collins <josh@sfei.org>
From: Paul Jones/R9/USEPA/US
Date: 09/22/2010 09:14AM
cc: Cara Clark <cclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, Clifford Harvey <CHarvey@waterboards.ca.gov>, Chris Solek <chriss@sccwrp.org>, Carol Witham <cwitham@ncal.net>, Eric Stein <erics@sccwrp.org>, Kevin O'Connor <koconnor@mlml.calstate.edu>, Ross Clark <rclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, Chad Roberts <rcr@robertsecp.com>, Melissa Scianni/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Erin Foresman/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject: Re: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

Hi, Josh and the team: I think this is right on the mark. I hadn't added the Delta RMP to the mix as it's clearly a program; whereas the other two efforts are more in the line of "projects." While I am not clear at all about what the Delta RMP is or supposed to be, I will find out. Melissa Scianni and Erin Foresman of our Watersheds Office (and our lead Delta staff person) are working on this as well. Melissa and I talked about your email yesterday afternoon and sketched a plan to write up a more complete picture for the purpose of our gaining greater clarity on what it is we think we can do and to be able to communicate

that to DWR and other agencies as needed.

We'll work on that soon.

But thanks for your input, which is, as usual, insightful and informative.

Paul

Paul Jones
US Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street (WTR-8)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: 415-972-3470
Fax: 415-947-3537
jones.paul@epa.gov
~~~~~

Josh Collins ---09/21/2010 04:21:43 PM---Hi What seems to be missing here is explicit reference to the particular DWR projects of interest.

From: Josh Collins <josh@sfei.org>  
To: Eric Stein <erics@sccwrp.org>  
Cc: Cara Clark <cclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, Clifford Harvey <CHarvey@waterboards.ca.gov>, Chris Solek <chriss@sccwrp.org>, Carol Witham <cwitham@ncal.net>, Ross Clark <rclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, Chad Roberts <rcr@robertsecp.com>, Jones Paul <Jones.Paul@epamail.epa.gov>, Kevin O'Connor <koconnor@mlml.calstate.edu>  
Date: 09/21/2010 04:21 PM  
Subject: Re: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

Hi

What seems to be missing here is explicit reference to the particular DWR projects of interest. I don't think this is not about "DWR" in a global sense. Not yet at least. This is about (1) the CV Flood Protection Project, which involves tech transfer from SFEI (Kristin Cayce) to Todd Keeler-Wolf and his staff at CDFG to implement the draft-proposed WRAMP riparian mapping tool as added value to the veg mapping now being done by CSU Chico and CDFG Veg CAMP; (2) the possible use of L1 and L2 protocols by DWR or its consultants to assess alternative Sac River southward conveyance routes around or through the Delta; (3) Delta RMP - the development of a regional water quality and habitat monitoring program for the Delta that is consistent with the SF Bay RMPs for water quality and wetlands. From the CWMW, Scott and I are working on No. 1, Paul is working on No. 2, and I expect Paul is also working on No. 3 since it's funded in part by USEPA (Regional Board 5 is also providing funds to SFEI to help design and start the Delta RMP). The nexus between the Delta RMP and DWR is complicated but for sure the Delta RMP can provide opportunities (now or eventually) to implement WRAMP.

Josh Collins  
Lead Scientist  
San Francisco Estuary Institute  
7770 Pardee Lane

Oakland CA 94621-1424  
Phone: 510 746 7365

From: "Eric Stein" <erics@sccwrp.org>  
To: "Jones Paul" <Jones.Paul@epamail.epa.gov>, "Kevin O'Connor" <koconnor@mlml.calstate.edu>  
Cc: "Cara Clark" <cclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, "Clifford Harvey" <CHarvey@waterboards.ca.gov>, "Chris Solek" <chriss@sccwrp.org>, "Carol Witham" <cwitham@ncal.net>, "Josh Collins" <josh@sfei.org>, "Ross Clark" <rclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, "Chad Roberts" <rcr@robertsecp.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2010 4:00:07 PM  
Subject: RE: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

I agree with the general approach presented by Chad. However, I would suggest that this effort be coordinated through the L2 committee and that the program leads be Chris Solek, Letitia (or whoever Josh assigns) Kevin or Ross and Chad.

[illegible]

From: Jones.Paul@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Jones.Paul@epamail.epa.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2010 2:53 PM  
To: Kevin O'Connor  
Cc: Cara Clark; Clifford Harvey; Chris Solek; Carol Witham; Eric Stein; Josh Collins; Ross Clark; Chad Roberts  
Subject: Re: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

I agree with Kevin. Thanks, Chad, for putting good thought into this. I just spoke with one of our Associate Division Directors about this issue. Karen Schwinn suggested I attempt to write up what we're recommending to DWR. I will take Chad's initial effort and work on it for wider consideration. We have several other people here working on this from various angles also....and I need to coordinate with them.

Cheers,  
Paul

Paul Jones  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne Street (WTR-8)  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Phone: 415-972-3470  
Fax: 415-947-3537  
[jones.paul@epa.gov](mailto:jones.paul@epa.gov)

From: Kevin O'Connor <koconnor@mlml.calstate.edu>  
To: Chad Roberts <rcr@robertsecp.com>  
Cc: Eric Stein <erics@sccwrp.org>, Clifford Harvey <CHarvey@waterboards.ca.gov>, Paul Jones/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Carol Witham <cwitham@ncal.net>, Chris Solek <chriss@sccwrp.org>, Josh Collins <josh@sfei.org>, Ross Clark <rclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, Cara Clark <cclark@mlml.calstate.edu>  
Date: 09/21/2010 01:14 PM  
Subject: Re: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

L2 Committee,

I think Chad has provided a great outline here of how to move forward and I agree we should not let this opportunity pass.

I'm not sure about the timeline on this, however, since I will be out of the country for the next 2.5 months, Cara and Ross will be the contacts for the DWR training and the research portion of the project. Perhaps, depending on the timeline, a doodle should be sent out to set up a conference call to keep this moving forward.

Also, Chad, you should definitely play a part in the process.

-Kevin

On Sep 20, 2010, at 10:21 AM, Chad Roberts wrote:

Eric et al,

The way I see this is that there are two broad tasks, though interrelated:

1. Work with DWR's BDCP group to train DWR staff in implementing CRAM (and the L1-based mapping and classification procedures), this implementing the WRAMP. This is fundamentally a training and liaison task, the kind of work that SCCWRP, the Central Coast Wetlands Group, and SFEI (and Carol) have all been engaged in.

2. ASSIST(!) DWR in developing information for the BDCP process as Paul described at the L2 meeting last week. This is something a bit different but, if I understand the needs correctly, not too different from the kinds of things that the PI Team has already done.

Task 1 : Liaison with DWR needs a capability for agency engagement as well as technical training skills. I don't think one person can do everything.

In terms of training, I think that the entire training group that we have now should be engaged (one reason is that I would expect that everyone has something to bring to the table, but also because I'd prefer that nobody feel left out). So I'd appoint a committee of Sarah Pearce, Chris Solek, and Cara Clark to develop and implement the training for/with DWR.

In my judgement oversight for the training should be provided directly by the L2 Committee, which would have the real and positive effect of fixing the identity of the Committee in the minds of DWR and other agencies. Technical "advice" and management regarding the training would still be provided by the "PI Team," as it has up to now.

Details about DWR contracting would have to be dealt with, but this is not any different from any of the EPA grants; we're talking about a training project, with some extra sensitivity to implementing CRAM in an agency framework. For the designated "PI," I suggest a team of SCCWRP (Eric Stein), CCWG (Kevin O'Connor), and SFEI (Josh Collins). Or we can just have Meredith Williams be the PI. Personally, I would be pleased to participate if I had a place to land. I also think that Carol Witham should be included in the PI Team.

Task 2 : This is a different set of tasks, and I recommend treating this as an "R&D project." The technical tasks are not clearly established but involve something like:

A. Obtain existing maps and data for the three (or four) alternative alignments. Working with DWR and DFG staff, parse out the wetland categories in the maps (nominally based on VegCAMP data) and cross-walk them into a classification consistent with CRAM so that appropriate modules can be assigned.

B. Working with DWR and DFG staff, identify wetlands in the vicinity of the Delta that have the same VegCAMP classifications as those in the alignments. Field-verify the applicability of the CRAM modules, and modify the modules if appropriate.

C. Develop a sampling process for the accessible locations and conduct field sampling. Compile/summarize the results as an indication of the conditions that would be affected by the proposed alignments.

D. When an alignment has been selected and access to the alignment is available, develop a CRAM sampling plan for the alignment and repeat item C for the alignment, modifying interpretations as necessary.

This is not unfamiliar ground for the CRAM PI Team. I suggest that the designated "PI Team" be SCCWRP (Eric Stein), CCWG (Kevin O'Connor), and SFEI (Josh Collins). I think that Carol Witham would also be an appropriate member of this PI team. As before, I'd be pleased to participate if I had a way to do so.

This approach will come with many opportunities to interact with DWR staff, permitting a demonstration of L2/CRAM and the L1 classification and mapping process, in the meantime also allowing the L1 and L2 committees to develop and apply procedures to implement WRAMP.

SUMMARY : What I'm suggesting here is that none of this is much different from what we've already done. These tasks are also not much different from what many consultants already do. I suspect that WRA or ICFI or CH2M Hill would be happy to take this contract (and will, if DWR offers it to them), but they wouldn't be able to do the technical job as well as we could, and would certainly not help in implementing WRAMP.

Best I can do Eric. I see how this could work, but I don't speak for anyone else.

Chad

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Stein [mailto:erics@sccwrp.org]

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2010 7:46 AM

To: 'Chad Roberts'; 'Clifford Harvey'; 'Paul Jones'; 'Ross Clark'; 'Kevin O'Connor'; 'Carol Witham'; 'Chris Solek'; josh@sfei.org

Subject: RE: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

Who would you see as taking the lead in organizing the training and working directly with DWR - who should be the point person from our team?

[illegible]

-----Original Message-----

From: Chad Roberts [mailto:[rcr@robertsecp.com](mailto:rcr@robertsecp.com)]  
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2010 8:29 PM  
To: 'Clifford Harvey'; 'Paul Jones'; 'Ross Clark'; 'Kevin O'Connor'; 'Carol Witham'; 'Chris Solek'; [josh@sfei.org](mailto:josh@sfei.org)  
Cc: 'Eric Stein'  
Subject: RE: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

All,

As a follow-up to the discussion at our Friday meeting (and the Thursday CWMW meeting):

1. I would urge that we (and particularly Paul, since the initial contact went to him) move with all deliberate haste to set up an arrangement to assist DWR with the BDCP tasks that we discussed Friday. We have identified numerous caveats and sidebars to protect our independence and credibility. Personally I don't see any conceptual or organizational problems with identifying prospective condition scores in alignments that cannot be visited in person, so long as we are able to visit wetland areas that are demonstrably similar to those areas for on-the-ground CRAM work (have done this a number of times in environmental studies - the standard of review is "substantial evidence," which is what we will provide). In addition we have identified the definite caveat that we must be contracted to visit the actual selected alignment when opportunity arises, at which time we may change the identified condition scores.

This opportunity has enormous potential benefits for our efforts at introducing CRAM into the Central Valley, as well as in developing a working trust with a major part of DWR, and I urge that we cannot afford to pass up the opportunity.

2. I would urge that the L2 Committee, or Josh or Paul or Chris or Kevin, or all of us, contact Gail Kuenster and set up a training program for DWR's

BDCP staff as soon as it can happen. She asked for this training for her agency staff at the meeting on Thursday, and it's an irreplaceable opportunity to build a relationship with DWR staff.

Regards to all,

Chad